

Celebrating the Beautiful Life
of

Jennifer Jean Johnson

June 27, 1945 ~ May 27, 2020

First Baptist Church of New Haven

September 12, 2020



Prelude

Words of Gathering and Welcome

Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer ("debts")

Hymn ~ *Blessed Assurance* by Fanny J. Crosby and Phoebe P. Knapp

1. Blessed as-surance, Je-sus is mine! O what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, perfect de-light! Vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest! I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blessed,
Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, Born of His Spir-it, washed in His blood.
An-gels de-scending bring from a-bove Ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
Watching and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, Filled with His good-ness, lost in His love.
This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long;
this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Old Testament Reading
Proverbs 31:10-31

Alan Gibbons

Musical Interlude ~ It Is Well with my Soul

Paul Johnson, Jr.

Remembrances

Unison Reading of Psalm 23

The LORD Is My Shepherd

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
² He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
³ He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

Musical Interlude ~ What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Sandra and Lynda Kasongo

New Testament Reading
John 14

Rev. Bonita Grubbs

Remembrances

Musical Interlude ~ I Was There to Hear your Borneing Cry

Darwin Keichline

Closing Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing

Hymn - *Amazing Grace*

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Amazing Grace.

John Newton.

McIntosh. C. M.

Arr. by E. O. Excell.

1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me! I
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re-lieved; How
 3. Thro' man - y dan-gers, toils and snares, I have al - read - y come; 'Tis
 4. When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shin-ing as the sun, We've
 once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
 pre - cious did that grace ap - pear The hour I first be-lieved!
 grace hath bro't me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
 no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first be - gun. A - MEN.

Benediction

Postlude

Please be seated and be patient until the ushers release you.

The Johnson Family would like to thank each of you for being part of this service, either virtually or in person. We so value your presence and friendship in this tender time. We deeply appreciate all of the love, kind words, and prayers we have received. Thank you for being part of our lives.

Special thanks to Reverend Linda Lea Snyder, Reverend Joseph Delahunt and Organist Larry Bishop. Many thanks to all who helped with the preparation and service.

Jennifer was the dearest and best wife, mother, sister, grandmother, friend, teacher, and her sense of good cheer and her faithfulness live on in so many.

Gifts in her name may be contributed to First Baptist Church, New Haven designated for Refugee Resettlement. Contributions may be made by mail at 205 Edwards Street, New Haven, 06511 or online at firstbaptistnewhaven.org.

Please consider sharing memories, photos and videos online at <http://memorial.yourtribute.com/JenniferJohnson> or mail to 208 Mountain Road, Cheshire, CT 06410.

Though my hand you'll no longer hold it doesn't mean I'm gone.
Though I'll miss the world I loved God chose that I move on.
I know the pain that drowns your soul and what you're forced to face.
You have my word I'll fill your arms again with that embrace.
You'll hear that it was "meant to be", God doesn't make mistakes.
But that won't soften how you feel or make your heart not ache.
I'm watching over all you do. I know it's hard to bear.
Believe me when I say to you that I am always there.
There will come a time, I promise, when again you'll hold my hand.
I know it will be in this moment when you understand.
Today I may not breathe your air or gaze into your eyes,
That doesn't mean I am not here, a spirit never dies. - Unknown

Remembrances

“I loved knowing Jennifer. She was kind, friendly, caring and helpful to others. She was strong in her Christian faith. I was blessed to have known her.” Ruth Ewaskio

“When I first met her, I could immediately appreciate that she was truly a remarkable person, full of positive energy and so devoted to her family. As I spent more time with her, I was so impressed by her optimistic attitude, her resilience, and her quiet understated courage. Although her passing is incomprehensible in so many ways, her legacy will endure, and she will be remembered forever by those who were blessed to have spent time with her.” Jill Lacy, M.D.

“I give thanks to God today for Jennifer, for her precious life, and for all the wonderful gifts she offered throughout her life to her family, church, and community. It was a delight to know her, and a special joy to be known by her.” Rev. Dale Peterson

“Jennifer was so special to so many. She touched so many hearts and changed lives with her ‘love in action’! What a role model! She will be missed but her good, kind deeds and love will live on.” Louise Barber

“She was the first baby I ever held – up in the bedroom in Great Aunt Edie’s house in Fish Creek – Jerry was off in the Army and family was there for Ruby.” Barb Schmidt

“Jennifer was so exceptional in so many ways. Her deep care for those she loved and those she barely knew, her snarky sense of humor and sense of fun, even in difficult times. Hers was such a hospitable spirit, and who will ever forget how she, along with you, gathered and fed people into your home, at every conceivable church event, as she and Dave travelled with dear friends. Jenn’s straight forwardness, clarity, and voice often spoke the truth of situations. Though never unkind she could ‘size things up’ and speak to the heart of it, a gift especially in her many roles within ABCCONN and Baptist Union. While we will grieve her passing, her loss will touch every organization she was part of.” Rev. Linda Lea Snyder

“Jennifer was truly a faithful woman who practiced what she preached. What an amazing role model I’ve had the privilege of having be a part of my life since I was 5 years old. My husband beautifully reminded me that God lives within each of us, so though she is physically gone, Jennifer is still here with us. I know her spirit will continue to guide and uplift us all, until the day we join together in God’s kingdom.” Michelle and Mak Leger

“I have such good memories of working with her on committees and boards at ABCCONN and at CT Baptist Homes. She has a great spirit and a ready laugh – all to be cherished!” Rev. Cyndi and Dave Strosahl

“I recall well her calm and steady presence in your family, her kindness and generosity of spirit. I also appreciated her genuine interest in, and support for, me and my family over the years. I was happy to run into her at Camp Wightman several years ago when I was picking up my son. The pride she expressed in Tim and Amy and the people they had become was obvious. She was a model of Christian faith and an inspiration to others.”
Dave Hardy

“Jennifer managed to be both encouraging and realistic, faithful and grounded, spiritual and good humored. I will continue to treasure her memory and to give thanks for the myriad of ministries she had a hand in encouraging. I’m confident that her life’s work will continue to be a source of blessing in more ways than I am likely to know.” Rev. Erica Wimber Avena

God saw the road was getting rough, the hill hard to climb.
He gently closed her weary eyes and whispers “Peace be thine”.
The hours of pain, the sleepless nights are passed.
Your ever loving wife, mother, and grandmother has found sweet rest at last.
Gwen and Carl Lambert

“Jennifer was a blessing to everyone she encountered. Her grace, intelligence and compassion was always evident. Her smile could light up any room and her faith – in people and God – was strong and courageous, as was her response to her various health challenges. She was graceful, and always teaching.” Rev. Bonita Grubbs

I Am Standing Upon The Seashore

I am standing upon the seashore.
A ship at my side spreads her white
sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean.

She is an object of beauty and strength.
I stand and watch her until at length
she hangs like a speck of white cloud
just where the sea and sky come
to mingle with each other.

Then, someone at my side says;

"There, she is gone!"

"Gone where?"

Gone from my sight. That is all.

She is just as large in mast and hull
and spar as she was when she left my side
and she is just as able to bear her
load of living freight to her destined port.
Her diminished size is in me, not in her.

And just at the moment when someone
at my side says, "There, she is gone!"
There are other eyes watching her coming,
and other voices ready to take up the glad shout;
"Here she comes!"